

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01

USIA-15 AGR-10 COME-00 /102 W
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R 161207Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 113

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS KHARTOUM 1667

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ECIN, EG, SU

SUBJECT: SUDANESE/EGYPTIAN MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE AGREES ON
ECONOMIC COLLABORATION

REF: KHARTOUM 1573

1. SUDANESE-EGYPTIAN JOINT HIGHER MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE FOR
POLITICAL ACTIONS PROGRAMS AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION MET
JULY 14-15 IN KHARTOUM AND ISSUED JOINT STATEMENT CONTAINING
AGREEMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS IN EVERY CONCEIVABLE FIELD
(RELIGION, YOUTH, EDUCATION, TRANSPORTATION, AGRICULTURE,
INDUSTRY, ET AL) BUT POLITICAL. SUDANESE DELEGATION HEAD
COVERED LATTER ITEM BEFORE MEETINGS BEGAN BY EXPLAINING
THAT TWO COUNTRIES HAD ALREADY ACHIEVED IMPORTANT PROGRESS
IN POLITICAL COORDINATION BETWEEN THE TWO POLITICAL ORGANI-
ZATIONS IN SUDAN AND EGYPT (SSU AND ASU).

2. HIGHLIGHTS ARE ESTABLISHMENT OF EGYPTIAN-SUDANESE
COMPANY FOR AGRICULTURAL INTEGRATION RESPONSIBLE FOR
PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING JOINT PROJECTS (ALL IN THE SUDAN)
AND DECISION TO GIVE PRIORITY TO EXECUTING FIRST STAGE
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ON JONGLEI CANAL SCHEME. STATEMENT SAYS THAT CONTRACT TO

DIG CANAL WILL GO TO COMPANY MAKING BEST OFFER, WHETHER PRIVATE OR PUBLIC, FOREIGN OR DOMESTIC. OTHER WORK WILL BE PERFORMED BY EGYPTIANS AND SUDANESE.

3. SUDANESE DELEGATION LED BY MINAG ABU GASSIM MOHAMMED IBRAHIM AND INCLUDED SEVEN OTHER MINISTERS. EGYPTIAN SIDE OF SIX MINISTERS LED BY DEPUTY PM AND MIN HIGHER EDUCATION MOHAMMED HAFIZ GHANIM. ACCORDING LATEST ANNOUNCEMENT, MINED KAMAL HILMY AND MINTRANSPORT JAMAL EDDIN MOHAMMED SIDDIQI (MENTIONED IN EARLIER REPORTS) DID NOT PARTICIPATE.

4. SUDAN NEWS AGENCY JULY 14 CITED "RELIABLE CAIRO PRESS REPORTS" THAT PRESIDENT SADAT WILL PAY TWO-DAY VISIT TO KHARTOUM STARTING JULY 26 AND THEN PROCEED TO AFRICAN SUMMIT IN KAMPALA.

5. COMMENT: PRIORITY GIVEN TO JONGLEI SCHEME, AS WELL AS OTHER DECISIONS (E.G., ESTABLISHMENT OF ISLAMIC CULTURAL CENTER IN WAU IN SOUTHERN REGION), MAY WELL REVIVE SPECTRE IN SOUTH OF EGYPTIAN "RECOLONIZATION" AND ARAB ORIENTATION OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. PRESIDENT NIMVURI'S RECENT TRIP TO SOUTH, CONCURRENT WITH EGYPTIAN-SUDANESE MEETINGS, MAY IN PART HAVE BEEN CALCULATED TO WARD OFF SUCH FEARS. WITH RESPECT TO DIGGING CONTRACT ON JONGLEI CANAL, WE UNDERSTAND FRENCH MAY HAVE INSIDE TRACK.
BREWER

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